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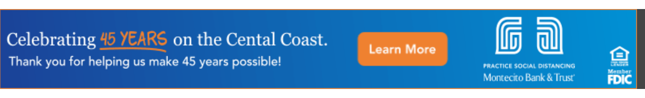
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LOCAL ARCHITECTS INVITE COMMUNITY INPUT ON STATE STREET PROMENADE

DISMOUNT ZONE

Local Architects Invite Community Input on State Street Promenade

LOCAL NEWS / JUL 17 2020 12:26 PM / BY / 8 COMMENTS / READS 1449

State Street Promenade (Photo: John Palminteri)

Source: AIA Santa Barbara

The Santa Barbara Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is conducting a 2020 Design Charrette to Reinvigorate, Reinvent, Reimagine, and Repurpose our Downtown with housing, energy, and life. The Charrette will consist of design teams of volunteer architects, landscape architects, planners, engineers, and other experts who will apply their talent and expertise to envision a future Downtown Santa Barbara.

According to Architect Detlev Peikert, AIA, "This charrette could be a vision to inform the community for the next 100 years."

Input is essential and the broader community is invited to participate. Complete the online survey and share your thoughts on the current Downtown experience. These ideas will help inform the designers as they work to solve problems and illustrate new ideas and visions for Santa Barbara now and into the future.

The design teams will focus on ideas for housing via adaptive reuse of existing buildings, new structures for "opportunity" sites, and development of our public open spaces. A few teams will review the entire promenade area in terms of flow, entry points, and supporting local businesses.

Please respond to the survey by August 2. Help us get the word out! Share the survey with your friends on social media so more voices are considered. The survey and more information on the design charrette is available at AIAsb.com.

CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE SURVEY: Community Survey
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SBCOUNTYLOCAL JUL 17, 2020 01:12 PM

"New vision" is code for: we are giving public property rent free to the adjacent property owners. Businesses might benefit in the short term, but in the long term the property owners receive a huge gift, the beauty of State St is destroyed with ugly patio furniture and vital services like fire, ambulance and police services are blocked by structures in the middle of the street. This "Charrette to Reinvigorate, Reinvent, Reimagine, and Repurpose our Downtown" has only ONE purpose and that is to gift public land and the streets to property owners and ensure that State St. is closed. We are beating a dead horse if we think the way forward it sot continue to chase after tourist dollars and low wage jobs that are offered for retail and restaurants jobs.

SENSIBLY COMMON JUL 17, 2020 06:47 PM

If you're not in favor of the new outdoor dining areas, how do you propose to activate the street?

Comment has been deleted by edhat

REX OF SB JUL 18, 2020 12:57 AM

SC: I can tell you one thing: shutting the street down to vehicular traffic is NOT the answer. You really can't appreciate State Street's beauty by walking it on foot. Once the novelty wears off—which it's already on the verge of doing—it's going to be the same old, same old. Once people can eat indoors at restaurants again, there is no reason to have them spilling out into the street. When arriving by car, tourists hitting this town cold only see Anacapa and Chapala Streets. Not exactly our best views, the Courthouse notwithstanding. Without State Street as our showpiece, we are just another Southern California beach community. We're a small version of Long Beach. GIVE US BACK STATE STREET!

PUPPYLUV JUL 17, 2020 04:05 PM

Hmmm. Is Paul Casey behind this? Wasn't this his idea after he was running around in a panic for tourist dollars and free lunches downtown? (see Noozhawk) He seems to be hiding a bit now. We haven't heard from him since George Buell took the fall for the ineptitude and (for lack of a better word) corruption in the Community Development department. What say ye, Paul? Is this really the time for this to go forward, as we are still enmeshed in the Covid 19 situation, lack of enforcement of simple mask wearing on State street and increasing community/tourist spread? Our children aren't even back to school yet. And how about hiring a new architect for the "new vision? Not that Detlev is not a nice guy, but he is basically a fixture in the CD department. How about some new, but locally aware and sensitive ideas, in conjunction with Detlev? P.S. Did Paul ever take his pay cut?

RHS JUL 17, 2020 04:30 PM

Once again a questionnaire worded to obtain the results desired by the advocates of a position. This is not a neutral or fair device. Just like most of these 'visioning' processes it is written by and for the interest group that is pushing the underlying agenda.

ZENYATTA19 JUL 17, 2020 10:36 PM

RHS You are 100% correct. What a joke of a survey

420722 JUL 17, 2020 09:24 PM

I'm all for reinvigorating state but that doesn't mean turning into all luxury apartments, maybe upstairs only? I know some developers are foaming at the mouth to make that happen but Santa Barbara needs a downtown and a good one. People come for the beach and a vibrant downtown (at least they used to). I know when I'm planning a trip I like to make sure wherever I go there is a decent area for dinning, gathering and shopping, in other words, a downtown.

Comment has been deleted by edhat

MINIBEAST JUL 17, 2020 10:33 PM

What is the solution? I have no idea. But I do like the raging optimism shown in the remark "This charrette could be a vision to inform the community for the next 100 years." Really? 100 years? At the rate things are going, and I mean The World Population Growth Rate and all that that portends, won't State St. in 30 years (as long as we're just throwing out numbers) be more like a scene out of Blade Runner than the alliterative "Reinvigorate, Reinvent, Reimagine, and Repurpose " proposed? (Re, re, re. Kinda troweling it on thick, there.) Okay, maybe I'm being the male equivalent of a Debbie Downer, but 100 years from now? 2120? Will the future a mere 20 years from now bear even the faintest resemblance to life as we now know it? I wonder . . .

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